

Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention concerns an in vitro process for altering the insect host range (spectrum) of pesti-
5 cidal toxins. The process comprises recombining in vitro the variable region(s) (non-homologous) of two or more genes encoding a pesticidal toxin. Specifically exemplified is the recombining of the variable regions of two genes obtained from well-known strains
10 of Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki. The resulting products are chimeric toxins which are shown to have an expanded and/or amplified insect host range as compared to the parent toxins.

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